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OPEN LETTER

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Information and Privacy Coordinator
Central Intelligence Agency
Washington, D. C. 20505

201 PM '86

Dear [redacted]

Enclosed is a photocopy of an article entitled "Skeletons in Deak's Closet", by Warren Hough, which appeared on page 19 in the February 24, 1986, issue of The Spotlight. The following self-explanatory excerpts are quoted from this article:

"A billion-dollar undercover network dealing in worldwide currency and gold speculation, espionage, drug money and the laundering of stolen funds has been unearthed by federal and local investigators probing the murder of the controversial New York financier Nicholas Deak (SPOTLIGHT, Dec. 16, 1985).

"But the CIA, reportedly with high administration support, is making an all-out effort to smother the scandal. The SPOTLIGHT has learned from law enforcement officials close to the case.

"These sources, who say that the clampdown on the revelations emerging from the Deak inquiry recalls the ham-handed White House effort to cover up the Watergate burglary 12 years ago, point to the following discoveries made so far...:

"The Deak-Perera International Banking Corp., which was set up by Deak in Hartford, Connecticut, and soon became known on the world's money markets as 'Depebanco,' engaged in mysterious transactions totaling, over the years, billions of dollars without ever accounting for its operations to any federal or state regulator.

"Depebanco was known to specialize in shady, fast-profit deals such as selling certificates of deposit to wealthy foreigners who wanted to smuggle their assets abroad. Now the investigators have turned up evidence suggesting that Depebanco and other unregulated Deak subsidiaries were used for more than 30 years to channel vast covert CIA funding around the world.

"Secret funds to fuel espionage and covert action operations, including huge CIA payoffs to foreign politicians, were not the only kind of back-channel bank business handled by Deak's organization. It was also a major conduit for some of the largest--and most brazen--corporate bribes ever disbursed by U.S. mega-conglomerates..."

Are the above quoted allegations true with regard to the alleged CIA involvement with—and the laundering of CIA funds through—any units of the Deak-Perera organization? If so, I herewith request, under the provisions of the U.S. Freedom of Information Act (FOIA), that you furnish me with complete and detailed information regarding any and all financial and/or other dealings that have ever transpired between the U.S. Central Intelligence Agency and any units of the Deak-Perera empire. I particularly request a complete accounting of all funds that have ever been laundered by the CIA through any and all entities/units of the Deak-Perera organization.

Finally, I am particularly interested in any dealings that may have transpired between the CIA and the Deak-Perera Far East Limited, Hong Kong, and Deak & Co. (Macau) Ltd. Hence, if the CIA had any dealings or involvement with either of these two Deak entities, I request under the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) that you furnish me with complete information regarding any and all such dealings. For your information, I am a creditor victim of these two Deak units for the combined claim of U.S. \$4,262.91. Was my money being illegally laundered by the CIA, unknown to me?

Thank you. Awaiting your reply, I am,

Very truly yours,